

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 MCE-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00
AID-05 ACDA-12 EB-08 L-03 SS-15 /063 W
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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2492
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
USMISSION USNATO
USCINCLANT
CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 2255

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS MPOL NL
SUBJECT: DOUBTS ABOUT DUTCH ACQUISITION OF LOCKHEED ORION

REF: THE HAGUE 208#(DTG 131421Z APR 78)

1. THERE IS A GROWING CLAMOR IN SUPPORT OF THE FRENCH BREGUET ATLANTIQUE AS THE NEW GENERATION ASW AIRCRAFT. IN A CLOSED-DOOR HEARING HELD BY THE DEFENSE COMMITTEE OF THE SECOND CHAMBER APRIL 21, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF VFW-FOKER INTERNATIONAL SUPPORTED THE FRENCH PLAN ON THE GROUND THAT HIS COMPANY WOULD BE ABLE TO PRODUCE THE MID-WINGS NOT ONLY FOR THE 13 AIRCRAFT FOR THE DUTCH NAVY BUT 42 ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT FOR THE FRENCH NAVY AS WELL. THE TWO LARGEST LABOR UNIONS FNV AND CNV (TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF 1.4 MILLION) HAVE ALSO GONE ON RECORD AS FAVORING THE FRENCH PLAN ON THE GROUND

THAT IT OFFERS FOKKER THE BEST OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMPENSATORY WORK AFTER THE APRIL 21 HEARING, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF DASSAULT-BREGUET TOLD NEWSMEN THAT NETHERLANDS WOULD GET 100 PERCENT OF THE PRICE OF THE PLANE IN OFFSET ORDERS.

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2. THE PARLIAMENTARY HEARING, IT APPEARS, REVEALED SOME CONFUSION ON THE PART OF THE POLITICIANS ABOUT THE INS AND OUTS OF AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT. THE DASSAULT REPRESENTATIVE HAS INDICATED THAT THE COMPANY INTENDS TO SUBMIT A DETAILED PLAN ON OFFSET BEFORE THE END OF MAY. AS A CONSEQUENCE, THERE IS GROWING SENSE THAT THE GOV WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DECIDE BEFORE

THE EXPIRY OF THE CURRENT LOA APRIL 30. STATE SECRETARYVAN
EEKELEN WILL VISIT PARIS APRIL 26 WITH A VIEW TO ACQUIRING
FURTHER DETAILSOFTHE FRENCH POSITION. HOWEVER, DEFENSE
MINISTER SCHOLTEN LAST WEEKINDICATED THAT IN MAKING THE
SELECTION FOR NEW ASW AIRCRAFT HE WOULD PUT DEFENSENEEDS
AHEAD OF ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS.
BROWN

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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